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Request 09/858,477-Conf. #2982 Application Number For May 17, 2001 Filing Date Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal Akira Sekine First Named Inventor Address to: 1743 Art Unit Y. G. Gakh **Examiner Name**

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 H6810.0021/P021 Attorney Docket Number This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. 1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 | Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _ Other **Enclosed** Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Amendment/Reply Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) 2. Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required) The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. 3. Fees The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. ______. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet. X RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) X Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) Check in the amount of \$ enclosed Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, AFFORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED 03/68/4606 JWWWth 3002000\$2 09858477 Signature 790.00 OP 01 FRed Mation No. 33,082 Name (Print/Type) Mark J. Thronson